AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-36. (Canceled)

37.   (Currently Amended) A method for preparing configuration settings of a source computing system for transitioning for use by a target computing system, the method comprising:

> providing information about configuration settings of the source computing system, the information identifying locations of configuration settings;
>
> displaying an indication of the configuration settings that can be extracted from the source computing system;
>
> receiving a selection of configuration settings to be extracted from the source computing system for use by the target computing system;
>
> extracting the selected configuration settings from the locations of the source computing system indicated by the information;
>
> manipulating at least one of the extracted configuration settings from <u>a location, a name, a value, and</u> a format used on the source computing system to <u>a location, a name, a value, and</u> a format used on the target computing system; and
>
> storing the extracted configuration settings and the at least one manipulated configuration settings on a storage device, wherein the stored configuration settings can be used by the target computing system to control its operation.

38.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 including installing the stored configuration settings on the target computing system.

39.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the installing is performed under control of an installation application.

40.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39 wherein the installation application is received from the source computing system.

41.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the extracted configuration settings include browser configuration settings.

42.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the extracted configuration settings include browser favorites.

43.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the extracted configuration settings include browser bookmarks.

44.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the extracted configuration settings include cookies.

45.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the extracted configuration settings include an electronic mail folder.

46.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 wherein the electronic mail folder is an inbox folder.

47.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the extracted configuration settings include electronic mail addresses.

48.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the storage device includes an installation application.

49.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48 wherein the target computing system receives and executes the installation application.

50.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48 wherein the installation application installs the configuration settings on the target computing system.

51.   (Currently Amended) A method for transitioning configuration settings of a source computing system to a target computing system, <u>the source computing system having a first operating system and the target computing system having a second operating system, wherein the second operating system is different from the first operating system,</u> the method comprising:

      providing a storage device having configuration settings extracted from the source computing system, wherein at least one of the extracted configuration settings is manipulated from <u>a source location, a source name, a source value, and</u> a <u>source</u> format ~~used on the source computing system~~ <u>of the first operating system</u> to <u>a target location, a target name, a target value, and</u> a <u>target</u> format ~~used on the target computing system~~ <u>of the second operating system</u>;

      retrieving the configuration settings from the storage device; and

      applying the retrieved configuration settings to the target computing system to control the operation of the target computing system.

52.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 51 including at the source computing system,

      providing information about configuration settings of the source computing system, the information identifying locations of configuration settings;

      receiving from a user a selection of configuration settings;

      extracting the selected configuration settings from the locations of the source computing system indicated by the information;

      manipulating at least one of the extracted configuration settings from <u>a source location, a source name, a source value, and</u> a <u>source</u> format ~~used on the source computing system~~ <u>of the first operating system</u> to <u>a target location, a</u>

> target name, a target value, and a target format ~~used on the target computing~~
> ~~system~~ of the second operating system, wherein at least the target format is
> different from the source format; and

storing the extracted configuration settings on the storage device.

53.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 wherein applying the retrieved configuration settings to the target computing system includes storing the retrieved configuration settings on the target computing system.

54.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 wherein applying the retrieved configuration settings to the target computing system includes an installation application, the installation application is stored on the storage device.

55.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the extracted configuration settings include browser configuration settings.

56.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the extracted configuration settings include browser favorites.

57.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the extracted configuration settings include browser bookmarks.

58.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the extracted configuration settings include cookies.

59.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the extracted configuration settings include an electronic mail folder.

60.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59 wherein the electronic mail folder is an inbox folder.

61.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the extracted configuration settings include electronic mail addresses.

62.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a source computing system and a target computing system to transition configuration settings of the source computing system to the target computing system by a method comprising:

    providing configuration information about configuration settings of the source computing system, the configuration information identifying locations of configuration settings;

    providing a selection of configuration settings to be extracted from the source computing system;

    extracting the selected configuration settings from the locations of the source computing system indicated by the configuration information;

    <u>when a configuration setting of the target computing system is not present on the source computing system, calculating the configuration setting for the target system from other configuration settings of the source computing system; and</u>

    ~~manipulating at least one of the extracted configuration settings from a format used on the source computing system to a format used on the target computing system; and~~

    storing the extracted configuration settings and the at least one ~~manipulated~~ <u>calculated</u> configuration settings on a storage device.

63.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 62 including installing the configuration settings stored on the storage device on the target computing system.

64.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 63 wherein the installing is performed under control of an installation application.

65.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 64 wherein the installation application is stored on the storage device.

66.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 63 including receiving from a user a selection of the configuration settings stored on the storage device that are to be installed on the target computing system.

67.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 62 wherein the extracted configuration settings are selected from the group consisting of browser configuration settings, browser favorites, and browser bookmarks.

68.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 62 wherein the extracted configuration settings include cookies.

69.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 62 wherein the extracted configuration settings are selected from the group consisting of an electronic mail folder and electronic mail addresses.

70.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a source computing device and a target computing device to transition configuration settings of the source computing device to the target computing device by a method comprising:

    providing configuration information about configuration settings of the source computing device, the configuration information identifying locations of configuration settings;

    providing a selection of configuration settings to be extracted from the source computing device;

    extracting the selected configuration settings from the locations of the source computing device indicated by the configuration information;

    manipulating at least one of the extracted configuration settings from <u>a first location, a first name, a first value, and</u> a <u>first</u> format used on the source computing system to <u>a second location, a second name, a second value, and</u> a <u>second</u> format used on the target computing system<u>, wherein at least the second value is different from the first value</u>;

    <u>when a configuration setting of the target computing system is not present on the source computing system, calculating the configuration setting for the target computing system from other configuration settings of the source computing system;</u>

    storing the extracted configuration settings<u>, the calculated configuration setting,</u> and the at least one manipulated configuration settings on a storage device;

    receiving a selection of the stored configuration <u>settings</u>;

    applying the selection of stored configuration settings to the target computing device.

71.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 70 wherein the extracted configuration settings are selected from the group consisting of browser configuration settings, browser favorites, and browser bookmarks.

72.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 70 wherein the extracted configuration settings include cookies.

73.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 70 wherein the extracted configuration settings are selected from the group consisting of an electronic mail folder and electronic mail addresses.

74.   (Currently Amended) A method for manipulating a personality of a target computing system based on a personality of the source computing system, <u>the source computing system having a first version of a program and the target computing system having a second version of the program, wherein the second version is different from the first version,</u> the method comprising:

> providing a selection of configuration settings, wherein the configuration settings are part of the personality of the source computing system<u>, wherein the configuration settings comprise at least one configuration setting of the first version of the program</u>;

> extracting the selected configuration settings from the source computing system;

> manipulating <u>the</u> at least one ~~of the~~ extracted <u>program</u> configuration settings from <u>a location, a name, a value, and</u> a format used <u>by the first version of the program</u> on the source computing system to <u>a location, a name, a value, and</u> a format used <u>by the second version of the program</u> on the target computing system;

> storing the extracted configuration settings and the at least one manipulated configuration settings on a storage device; and

> applying the stored configuration settings to the target computing system so that the personality of the target computing system can be manipulated based on the configuration settings stored on the storage device.

75.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74 wherein the personality of the source computing system includes at least one personality object.

76.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 75 wherein the at least one personality object includes configuration settings for a program.

77.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74 wherein applying the stored configuration settings to the target computing system includes storing the configuration settings stored on the storage device on the target computing system.

78.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77 wherein an installation application stores the configuration settings stored on the storage device on the target computing system.

79.   (Currently Amended) A system for manipulating a personality of a target computing system based on a personality of the source computing system, comprising:

    means for presenting to a user the personality of the source computing system, the personality of the source computing system including configuration settings;

    means for receiving a selection of the configuration settings;

    means for storing the selected configuration settings on a storage device;

    means for manipulating at least one of the selected configuration settings from a location, a name, a value, and a format used on the source computing system to a location, a name, a value, and a format used on the target computing system; ~~and~~

    means for calculating a distinguished configuration setting for the target computing system from other configuration settings of the source computing system when the distinguished configuration setting is not present on the source computing system; and

means for applying the selected configuration settings, the calculated configuration
    setting, and the at least one manipulated configuration setting to the target
    computing system so that the personality of the target computing system can
    be manipulated based on the personality of the source computing system.

80.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 79 wherein the personality of
the source computing system includes at least one personality object.

81.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 80 wherein the at least one
personality object includes configuration settings for a program.

82.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 79 wherein the means for
applying the selected configuration settings, the calculated configuration setting, and the at
least one manipulated configuration setting to the target computing system includes means
for storing the selected configuration settings, the calculated configuration setting, and the
at least one manipulated configuration setting on the target computing system.

83.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 82 wherein an installation
application stores the selected configuration settings, the calculated configuration setting,
and the at least one manipulated configuration setting on the target computing system.

84.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the extracted
configuration settings include registry settings.

85.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the extracted
configuration settings include registry settings.

86.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 62 wherein
the extracted configuration settings include registry settings.

87.   (Previously Presented)   The computer-readable medium claim 70 wherein the extracted configuration settings include registry settings.